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## Avian Influenza in Romania

Romania's first outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) since 1942 was reported on October 7, 2005 by the Institute of Diagnostics and Animal Health, a national reference laboratory, and confirmed on October 16 to be H5N1 by VLA Weybridge, an OIE reference laboratory in the United Kingdom, for both duck and chicken samples tested. All 100 birds (58 laying hens and 42 ducks) on a single backyard farm located in the village of Ceamurlia-de-Jos of Tulcea County were destroyed. Control measures were taken (stamping out procedures, movement restrictions, screening, zoning, the disinfection of infected premises, and dipping and spraying practices.) A 3-km radius protection zone and a 10-km radius surveillance zone was established and a count of backyard premises and all poultry species susceptible was taken in each zone. By the morning of October 13, 2005, a total of 4,797 birds (4,009 hens, 318 ducks, 238 geese, and 232 turkey hens) from 72 backyard premises of the 420 tallied in Ceamurlia-de-Jos were destroyed and incinerated.

On October 14, another outbreak of HPAI was reported by the Institute for Diagnostics and Animal Health in the village Maliuc (537 swans) and on a backyard farm near Vulturu (46 hens and 2 turkey hens) located in Tulcea County. Tests from VLA Weybridge came back positive for H5N1 on October 16 for both the swan and chicken fluids tested. As of October 20, stamping out activities in Maliuc and Vulturu had been completed and a total of 3,562 domestic poultry had been destroyed; the outbreak in Ceamurlia-de-Jos was eradicated and a total of 18,626 domestic poultry were culled and incinerated.

On October 21, the avian influenza virus was detected in a heron found dead in an unpopulated area about 700 m from Prut River, close to the Moldavia border and about 50-km north of Scarlatesti, Romania. The virus found was later confirmed to be H5N1 subtype. Another case of H5N1 was confirmed in 2 geese and a swan, thought to have belonged to a flock of migratory birds, found dead about 1-km from the River Danube, close to Vadu-Oii locality on November 1.

On November 15, HPAI H5N1 was confirmed on some farms near Caraorman in Tulcea County. All 39 laying hens, 13 geese, 10 ducks and 2 turkeys were destroyed and incinerated. Control measures such as stamping out, quarantine and movement restrictions were established, and disinfection procedures were taken. In regards to Ceamurlia-de-Jos in Tulcea County, quarantine measures were lifted November 11 and the outbreak was declared extinguished November 21. Quarantine measures were also lifted and the area declared eradicated November 21 in Maliuc and Vulturu of Tulcea County. As of November 22, only a single outbreak remained in Romania in the Caraorman of Tulcea County.

On November 23, the EU's Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health announced adjustments to import bans and biosecurity requirements placed on Croatia, Turkey, Romania, and Russia. For Croatia, the import ban will only apply to the counties of Viroviticko-Podravaska and Osjecko-Baranjska, while for Turkey the ban on imports of feathers will be limited to the province of Balkesir. With regards to Romania, the restrictions on EU imports of live poultry will continue to apply to the whole country, but the ban on poultry meat and poultry meat products will be regionalized to cover the counties of Tulcea,

Constanta, Galati, Braila, Ialomita, and Calarasi. In relation to Russia, the measures applicable until December 31 have been extended until March 31, 2006, while at the same time restrictions have been adapted for non-affected regions: Arkhangel'sk Oblast, Kaliningrad Oblast, Karelia Republic, Komi Republic, Kostroma Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Nenets Autonomous District, Novgorod Oblast, Pskov Oblast, Saint Petersburg, Smolensk Oblast, Leningrad Oblast, Tver Oblast, Vologda Oblast, and Yaroslavl Oblast.

Another outbreak of HPAI was reported in Scarlatesti on November 27 2005. The area was quarantined after a turkey tested positive for subtype H5. Further tests are being conducted in Britain to determine if the virus is H5N1. In the meantime, all domestic birds (about 15,000) were to be culled and the area disinfected. On November 28, Romania fired two of its chief veterinarians from Braila County for mishandling the culling operation, as a television station showed junior veterinarians throwing live birds into an open fire during the culling campaign.

Recently, the H5 virus was found in Periprava of Tulcea County, and in Bumbacari, Dudescu, and Ciocile of Braila County as of late last week. Further tests are in order and the area has been quarantined, birds culled and incinerated, and the residents vaccinated. So far no cases have been reported in humans.

A new veterinary regulation was recently approved by the Romanian Government and is set to become effective December 19, 2005. The new regulation will limit imports of US red meat as only EU approved red meat processing plants would be eligible to export for which there are only a few US processors approved for export. However this new regulation does not apply to live poultry and poultry meat. On the other hand another new regulation effective December 19, 2005 describing procedures for heat-treatment processing applied to meat and meat products found positive with Salmonella bacteria would apply to all red meat and poultry alike (see FAS Report RO5015.)

Source: OIE/Promed/European Commission Press Release/USDA FAS, News Wires

## US Poultry Meat Exports to Romania (thousand Metric Tons (MT))

	<u>Jan-Dec</u>			<u>Jan-Sept</u>	
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Chicken	31,737.0	44,672.3	66,622.3	46,939.9	80,146.1
Turkey	654.7	1,375.4	1,473.5	1,209.2	1,182.3
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	298.0
Total	32,391.7	46,047.6	68,095.8	48,148.9	81,626.3

Source: USDA FAS

## Romanian Chicken Meat Import (MT) Comparison January-December 2004 to January-June 2005

<u>Country</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
US	61,176	39,479	Italy	2,583	599
Brazil	31,366	21,348	UK	1,015	278
Germany	5,765	2,001	Slovenia	681	205
Netherlands	7,160	1,846	Greece	0	181
Canada	1,974	1,589	Ireland	822	0
Hungary	1,786	753	Others	2,261	501
Belgium	2,978	714	<b>Total</b>	<b>119,567</b>	<b>69,494</b>

Source: USDA FAS

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**Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade****U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending November 26, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	361	509	15,970	18,680
Frozen	0	0	130	11
Dried	0	38	808	773
Total	361	547	16,908	19,464

**U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending November 26, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Liquid	42	34	6,143	7,363
Frozen	82	44	814	1,551
Dried	0	38	371	2,033
Total	124	116	7,328	10,947

**Inspected Shell Eggs****U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending November 26, 2005		Year-To-Date		
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/	2004
Jumbo	0	0	190	392
Extra Large	280	4,700	179,441	200,446
Large	2,070	13,630	288,396	417,845
Medium	1,525	4,026	95,790	131,558
Ungraded	3,750	6,037	221,428	322,319
Misc	0	0	9,753	16,790
Total	7,625	28,393	794,998	1,089,350

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

**U.S./Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection**

W/E 26-Nov-05 (PRELIMINARY)

**U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	819	940	1,759
Last Week	1,427	1,444	2,871
Same week yr ago	796	747	1,543
To-date/2005	67,081	66,376	133,457
To-date/2004	63,965	63,717	127,682

**U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	118	0	118
Last Week	244	3	247
Same week yr ago	288	0	288
To-date/2005	12,067	63	12,130
To-date/2004	11,505	136	11,641

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

**Total U.S. Fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
-----Thousands-----			
Head	937	940	1,877
Last Week	1,671	1,447	3,118
Same week yr ago	1,084	747	1,831
To-date/2005	79,148	66,439	145,587
To-date/2004	75,470	63,853	139,323

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch

**CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN**

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Dec 02, 2005

**CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED**

--- PRICES ---		---- VOLUME ----		
FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	20.00	61,200	-
WTD AVERAGE		20.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	15.00-18.00	11.00-19.00	1,195,600	564,800
WTD AVERAGE	17.40	14.77		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

**EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN**

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Dec 02, 2005

**CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED**

--- PRICES ---		---- VOLUME ----		
FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	18.00	520,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		18.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	17.00-21.00	14.00-18.00	2,496,000	1,456,000
WTD AVERAGE	18.32	15.40		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	14.00	160,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		14.00		

\* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

**NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 2 DECEMBER 2005.**

The market tone on destrapped tenderloins was steady to instances weak with frozen in the softest position, scapula and tom breast meat mostly steady, balance of white meat steady to barely steady. Demand on tom breast meat moderate with some processors experiencing increased domestic further processed over last year at this time. Inquiry also continued to be noted from Canada on tom breast meat. Demand on the balance of white meat was light to moderate. Offerings of frozen destrapped tenderloins was adequate to instances burdensome, frozen breast trim adequate to fully adequate, tom breast meat and scapula light, balance of white meat adequate. Domestic trading was active on tom full-cut wings at steady to lower trending prices and on both fresh tom breast meat and fresh mechanically separated turkey at steady prices. Export trading was slow to moderate on tom drums and frozen thigh meat. For domestic: tails 33, fresh Grade A 9-12 lb. WOGs 92, fresh scapula 125-133, frozen hen destrapped tenderloins 210 cents delivered. For export: fresh thigh meat 97.50 cents delivered.

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>	<b>WEEKLY</b>	<b>WEEKLY</b>
<b>FRIDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	39.50-44.00		41.22	276	41.41	436
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/						
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	98.50-100.50		99.30	200	97.27	356

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 01, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	41.00-42.00		41.75	160
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	92.50-99.00		94.67	156

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		W	42.00	120
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	100.00	80

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		W	42.00	120
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	100.00	80

<b>EXPORT TRADING</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>L.S.T.</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>	<b>VOLUME</b>
<b>MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2005</b>	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>CODE 1/</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>(000)</b>
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		W	42.00	120
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 2/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		W	100.00	80

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.